



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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For the week ending June 24, 2012

DRY CONDITIONS PREVAILING

The high pressure system holding over Tennessee caused a continuation of the hot and dry weather last week. Virtually all of the featured weather stations across the state now show considerable precipitation deficits indicating moderate drought conditions. Soil moisture reports indicate that moisture levels in the state were 60 percent short to very short in West Tennessee, 80 percent short to very short in Middle Tennessee, and 70 percent short to very short in East Tennessee. The effects of the extended dry spell on crops have begun to show, but most crops continue to be rated in fair-to-good condition. Corn development remains well ahead of normal with seventy percent in the silking stage, but plants are twisting in many areas. Tobacco growers continue to irrigate. Pastures are short. Some producers reported feeding hay and were beginning to consider herd reduction. Livestock producers expressed their concerns about hay and water shortages along with pink eye becoming a problem.

There were 7 days suitable for fieldwork across the state. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 29 percent very short, 44 percent short and 27 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 24 percent very short, 43 percent short and 33 percent adequate. Temperatures across the state this past week averaged above normal while rainfall amounts averaged below to well below normal.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2011	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Silking or Beyond	70	47	23	29	Corn	6	17	31	41	5
Cotton – Squaring	46	31	28	38	Cotton	1	4	22	58	15
Soybeans – Emerged	93	78	72	74	Pastures	9	27	35	28	1
Soybeans – Blooming	15	6	3	5	Soybeans	4	12	27	52	5
Tobacco – Transplanted	98	91	89	93	Tobacco	0	4	21	66	9
Winter Wheat – Harvested	99	93	86	78						

County Agent Comments

“Considering the lack of rain for the last two weeks crops seem to be holding on. Some locations in Lauderdale County are in better shape than others. We just need rain.”

J.C. Dupree, Jr., Lauderdale County

“Another hot, dry week has pulled soil moisture levels lower and crops are suffering. A large portion of the corn acreage is at the critical pollination stage and rainfall is badly needed. Pastures are drying up as well as farm ponds. Soybean seeding was completed this week.”

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“Pasture and crop conditions are starting to deteriorate due to lack of moisture. Some tobacco growers have already started irrigating recently set fields in some parts of the county.”

Ronnie Barron, Cheatham County

“A few cattle producers have begun feeding hay. Cattlemen are battling pinkeye, which has been severe this year. Dry conditions have corn growers concerned since the crop is in full tassel. No rain last week that many others received.”

Paul Hart, Robertson County

“Conditions getting very dry. Many corn fields showing stress. Wheat beans have been planted and most are out of the ground but in need of moisture.”

Kevin Rose, Giles County

“The lack of rain fall over a long period of time is just about to pass the point of no return. Many pastures simply have died since the first cutting of hay. Even weeds are showing wilt.”

Cynthia Zeitz, Jackson County

“We are dry and everything is burning up. Corn is silking and tasseling and needs rain desperately. Pastures are dried up and people are beginning to feed hay. Water is getting short in several places.”

Larry Moorehead, Moore County

“Crop conditions seem to be worse now than they were at this time during the 2007 drought. June rain has been mostly mythical.”

Mitchell Mote, Rutherford County

“Extremely hot and dry, with no significant rain in the next week's forecast.”

Jared Goad, Marion County

“Two weeks since last rain. Corn twisting, need rain badly.”

J. Dale Beaty, Warren County

“DRY and HOT! An isolated thundershower brought an average of 1 inch of rain to the southeastern portion of the county. However, the majority of the county is very dry with some areas approaching four weeks without rain. This coupled with temperatures in the 90's has resulted in the 'firing' and 'twisting' of many acres of corn. Pastures and hay ground are suffering as well. Several cattle producers are feeding hay and some are contemplating herd reduction as pasture and hay supplies diminish.”

John Wilson, Blount County

“Claiborne County is extremely dry. Very little rain, if any since June 1. Pastures are drying up fast. Corn is twisting. Hay mowed in the a.m. will bale in the p. m., it is drying on the stump.”

Mike Heiskell, Claiborne County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: June 24, 2012 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending June 24, 2012				Current Week 6/24/12	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	95	61	78	2	0.00	0	19.52	-7.91	9.02	-4.46
Brownsville_TN	94	65	79	2	0.00	0	17.15	-10.37	6.91	-6.65
Covington	91	61	77	-2	0.00	0	17.62	-9.66	5.48	-7.94
Dyersburg	93	66	80	2	0.00	0	15.44	-10.17	6.30	-6.33
Huntingdon_Wate	93	62	78	2	0.00	0	16.83	-9.98	8.14	-4.75
Jackson_Exp_Stn	93	62	79	2	0.00	0	18.30	-8.95	7.36	-6.46
Lexington_TN	93	62	77	0	0.00	0	19.03	-6.93	7.88	-4.73
Martin	93	63	79	3	0.00	0	17.18	-9.44	6.42	-6.79
Memphis_AG	95	65	80	0	0.00	0	23.96	-2.94	12.91	-0.32
Milan	93	61	78	3	0.00	0	15.16	-12.57	4.65	-9.29
Paris	96	61	77	3	0.00	0	15.76	-10.53	6.06	-6.55
Savannah_6SW	94	61	78	0	0.00	0	24.44	-5.64	11.48	-2.96
Selmer	94	62	78	3	0.00	0	23.90	-5.66	11.11	-3.03
Union_City	93	63	78	2	0.00	0	16.74	-9.85	7.14	-6.10
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	97	60	79	4	0.00	0	13.00	-12.66	3.62	-8.22
Cookeville	92	60	76	3	0.22	1	21.43	-7.08	6.30	-7.01
Crossville_AP	88	59	74	4	0.17	1	22.15	-6.19	7.64	-5.50
Dickson_AG	97	60	77	3	0.00	0	17.93	-9.73	6.13	-7.35
Dover_1W	94	63	78	4	0.00	0	16.82	-9.82	6.13	-6.44
Fayetteville_TN	100	61	79	5	0.00	0	21.80	-6.27	6.81	-5.81
Jamestown	89	59	74	3	0.00	0	24.03	-3.26	8.31	-4.99
Kingston_Spring	95	60	78	4	0.00	0	18.81	-7.64	7.86	-4.46
Lewisburg	97	55	77	3	0.00	0	16.13	-11.93	5.44	-7.88
Livingston_WLIV	93	60	76	3	0.00	0	21.17	-4.93	4.92	-7.51
Lobelville	94	61	77	2	0.00	0	17.65	-11.18	7.02	-6.65
Murfreesboro_5N	95	61	77	2	0.00	0	17.80	-9.02	5.69	-7.19
Nashville_Metro	96	64	80	4	0.00	0	18.17	-6.29	7.12	-4.95
Oneida	91	61	76	6	0.00	0	26.32	-1.03	9.42	-3.91
Portland_TN	93	62	78	5	0.18	1	18.37	-8.28	6.69	-6.50
Pulaski_Water_P	95	60	76	-2	0.00	0	19.48	-8.82	8.25	-4.48
Shelbyville	101	63	80	5	0.00	0	19.86	-8.07	5.94	-6.94
Sparta_TN	94	60	77	4	0.00	0	17.33	-10.36	4.35	-8.62
Springfield	92	60	78	4	0.00	0	23.61	-1.88	11.92	-0.54
Springhill	95	57	77	4	0.00	0	17.65	-10.77	6.56	-7.07
Tullahoma	98	61	80	5	0.00	0	19.56	-9.72	6.19	-6.95
Waynesboro_TN	95	59	75	2	0.00	0	24.33	-5.47	12.49	-1.35
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	96	63	80	3	0.00	0	20.35	-6.91	6.02	-5.34
Cleveland_6NNE	92	61	78	4	0.19	2	17.07	-11.09	5.50	-6.93
Dayton	92	60	77	2	0.00	0	22.96	-5.80	8.63	-3.93
Erwin_1W	90	61	75	5	0.59	2	20.90	-3.07	10.20	-2.12
Gatlinburg_2SW	88	61	74	4	0.79	2	29.36	1.83	12.79	-0.65
Greeneville	92	62	75	3	0.23	3	22.60	1.50	11.48	1.19
Kingston_AG	93	63	78	6	0.05	1	24.90	-4.52	9.92	-3.25
Knoxville_AP	93	65	79	5	0.81	1	25.44	1.00	9.65	-1.33
Newcomb	91	57	75	5	0.06	2	24.72	-2.63	8.26	-5.07
Norris_4NE	92	58	76	3	0.10	1	25.96	-0.65	9.45	-3.11
Tri-City_RGNL_A	92	61	76	4	0.12	2	17.83	-2.57	7.10	-2.82

DFN = Departure from Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) measured in inches.

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